

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method of protecting content, the method comprising:
  - presenting an indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content;
  - preventing a user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented;
  - receiving a request from the user to access the content;
  - enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user; and
  - preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content.
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the content is an image and the indicator includes a display area that has a size that is greater than a size of the image and is positioned at a location of the image.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the indicator comprises text that presents the user with instructions for operating an input device to perceive the content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the indicator.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content by at least positioning a graphical interface tool over the indicator.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is being presented to the user.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using a single device to both present and capture the content.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content in a browser window.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that is otherwise capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content comprises an image and enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the image.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein presenting the indicator includes presenting an icon that differs from the content and that indicates a presence of the content.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the content includes an image and presenting the icon comprises displaying the icon in an area that has a size and a location that are substantially the same as a size and a location of the image.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein presenting the icon includes directing the user to operate an input device in a prescribed manner in order to request access to the content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the icon.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein receiving a request from the user to access the content includes receiving input from the user corresponding to positioning of a graphical interface tool over the icon.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using a single device to both present and capture the content.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes an image and preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the content is described in a hyper-text markup language.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein receiving a request from the user to access the content comprises receiving instructions from a user to access a document, the instructions including a network address of the document.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes sound, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the sound, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the sound.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes text, enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the text, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the text.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes video, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the video, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the video.

23. (Previously presented) A system for protecting content, the system comprising:  
a processor having communications links for receiving content from a network;  
an output device for making received network content perceivable;  
an input device for receiving user input; and  
memory storing software instructions performed by the processor (i) for presenting an indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content, (ii) for preventing a user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented, (iii) for receiving a request from the user to access the content, (iv) for enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user, and (v) for preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the content is an image and the memory includes software instructions performable by the processor for generating the indicator to include a display area having a size that is greater than a size of the image and a location at a position of the image.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the memory includes software instructions performable by the processor for generating the indicator to include text that is presented to the user with instructions for operating an input device to perceive the content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the indicator.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instruction for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content by at least positioning a graphical interface tool over the indicator.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is being presented to the user.

29. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing the user from using a single input device to both present and capture the content.

30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content in a browser window.

31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprises software instructions for preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that otherwise is capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes an image and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

34. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions enable perception of the content from a webpage.

35. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content comprises an image and the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the image.

36. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the content is described in a hyper-text markup language.

37. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for receiving a request from the user to access the content comprise software instructions for receiving input from a user indicating a request for access to a document, with the instructions including a network address of the document.

38. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes sound, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for playing the sound, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the sound.

39. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes text, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the text, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the text.

40. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes video, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for playing the video, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the video.

41. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions are stored as an applet.

42. (Previously presented) Computer software, tangibly embodied in a computer-readable medium or in a propagated carrier signal, for protecting content, for causing a computer system to perform the following operations, the software comprising:

- a first code segment to generate an indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content;

- a second code segment to prevent a user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented;

- a third code segment to enable receipt of a request from the user to access the content;

- a fourth code segment to enable perception of the content based on the request received from the user; and

- a fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content by the user and to prevent a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

43. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the fifth code segment includes a code segment to prevent the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

44. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the content is an image and the first code segment generates the indicator to include a display area having a size that is greater than a size of the image and a location at a position of the image.

45. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the first code segment generates the indicator to include text that presents the user with instructions for operating an input device to perceive content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the indicator.

46. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the fourth code segment to enable perception of the content includes a code segment to present the content to the user when the user requests access to the content by at least positioning a graphical interface tool over the indicator.

47. (Previously presented) The software of claim 46 wherein the fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content comprises a code segment to prevent the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is being presented to the user.

48. (Previously presented) The software of claim 46 wherein the fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content comprises a code segment to prevent the user from using a single input device to both present and capture the content.

49. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the fourth code segment to enable perception of the content includes a code segment to present the content in a browser window.

50. (Previously presented) The software of claim 49 wherein the fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content comprises a code segment to prevent the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that otherwise is capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method of protecting content, the method comprising:



presenting a visible indicator that differs from the content, and indicates a presence of the content;

preventing a user from perceiving the content while the visible indicator is ~~not selected~~ is being presented;

enabling a user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected;

receiving a request from the user to capture the content; and

preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content is an image.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is able to be perceived by the user.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content in a browser window.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that is otherwise capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content comprises an image and enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the image.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes an image and preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes sound, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the sound, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the sound.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes text, enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the text, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the text.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes video, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the video, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the video.

64. (Currently amended) A system for protecting content, the system comprising:  
a processor having communications links for receiving content from a network;  
an output device for making received network content perceivable;  
an input device for receiving user input; and  
memory storing software instructions performed by the processor (i) for presenting a visible indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content, (ii) for preventing a user from perceiving the content while the visible indicator ~~is not selected~~ is being presented, (iii) for enabling a user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected, (iv) for receiving a request from the user to access the content, and (v) for preventing the user

from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

65. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

66. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content is an image.

67. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content.

68. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is able to be perceived by the user.

69. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content in a browser window.

70. (Previously presented) The system of claim 69 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that is otherwise capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

71. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content comprises an image and the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the image.

72. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes an image and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

73. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes sound, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for playing the sound, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the sound.

74. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes text, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the text, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the text.

75. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes video, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for playing the video, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the video.

76. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user includes replacing the indicator with the content, such that the indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

77. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the request from the user to access the content includes holding down a mouse button over the indicator.

78. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user include software instructions for replacing the indicator with the content, such that the indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

79. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for receiving the request from the user to access the content include software instructions for holding down a mouse button over the indicator.

80. (New) The software of claim 42 wherein the fourth code segment to enable perception of the content includes a code segment to replace the indicator with the content, such that the indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

81. (New) The software of claim 42 wherein the third code segment to enable receipt of the request from the user to access the content includes a code segment to hold down a mouse button over the indicator.

82. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected includes replacing the visible indicator with the content, such that the visible indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

83. (New) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving the request from the user to access the content includes holding down a mouse button over the visible indicator.

84. (New) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected include software instructions for replacing the visible indicator with the content, such that the visible indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

85. (New) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for receiving the request from the user to access the content include software instructions for holding down a mouse button over the visible indicator.

86. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein presenting the indicator includes presenting a visible indicator and preventing the perception of the content at the indicator includes preventing the perception of the content at a location of the visible indicator.

87. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for presenting the indicator include software instructions for presenting a visible indicator and the software instructions for preventing the perception of the content at the indicator include software instructions for preventing the perception of the content at a location of the visible indicator.

88. (New) The method of claim 42 wherein the first code segment to generate the indicator includes a code segment to generate a visible indicator and the fifth code segment to prevent the perception of the content at the indicator includes a code segment to prevent the perception of the content at a location of the visible indicator.